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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : **Confirmation No. 7898**
Norikazu SUGAYA : Attorney Docket No. 2005_0044A
Serial No. 10/526,742✓ : Group Art Unit 1746
Filed March 7, 2005 : Examiner Zeinab E. El-Arini

METHOD FOR PRECLUDING ELUTION OF
LEAD AND NICKEL FROM COPPER ALLOY
PLUMBING HARDWARE, SUCH AS VALVES
AND TUBE COUPLINGS, THE COPPER
ALLOY PLUMBING HARDWARE, AND LIQUID
FOR RINSING THE PLUMBING HARDWARE

Mail Stop Amendment

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE
FEE FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant requests consideration of the references listed on attached form PTO-1449 and any additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A legible copy of each reference listed on the Form PTO-1449 is enclosed, except a copy is not provided for:

- ☒ each U.S. Patent and U.S. Patent application publication;
- ☐ each reference previously cited in the international application
PCT/_____; and/or
- ☐ each reference previously cited in prior parent application Serial No.

1a. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application, or

before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits or the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of an RCE,

and thus no certification and/or fee is required.

- 1b. ☒ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:

- (1) ☒ the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, **or**
(2) ☐ the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

- 1c. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted: after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:

**the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and
the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.**

2. It is hereby certified

- a. ☐ that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or
b. ☒ that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.

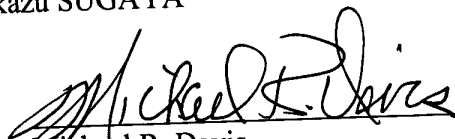
3. ☐ Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.
4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference is made to:
- a. ☐ a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith,
 - b. ☐ a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith,
 - c. ☐ the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page,
 - d. ☐ the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstract,
 - e. ☐ the concise explanation set forth below or on a separate sheet attached to the reference:
5. ☐ A foreign patent office search report citing one or more of the references is enclosed.
6. ☐ Statement Under 37 CFR 1.704(d)

Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart application, and this communication was not received by any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

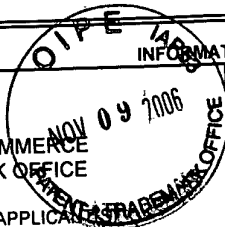
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November 9, 2006

Sheet 1 of 1				INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT			
FORM PTO 1449 (modified)		ATTY DOCKET NO. 2005_0044A		SERIAL NO. 10/526,742			
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		APPLICANT Norikazu SUGAYA					
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)		FILING DATE March 7, 2005		GROUP 1746			
Date Submitted to PTO: November 9, 2006							
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	6,770,215	8/2004	Giusti			
	AB	6,461,534	10/2002	Giusti			
	AC	6,434,967	8/2002	Emerick, Sr. et al.			
	AD	6,383,643	5/2002	De Jarlais			
	AE	6,293,336	9/2001	Emerick, Sr. et al.			
	AF	6,270,590	8/2001	Giusti			
	AG	6,013,382	1/2000	Coltrinari et al.			
	AH	5,544,859	8/1996	Coltrinari et al.			
	AI	6,200,482	3/2001	Winchester et al.			
	AJ	5,958,257	9/1999	Regelbrugge et al.			
	AK	6,197,210	3/2001	Myerson			
	AL	5,904,783	5/1999	Hager et al.			
	AM	5,601,658	2/1997	Marinas et al.			
	AN	2002/0189721	12/2002	Giusti			
	AO	2002/0043308	4/2002	Giusti			
	AP	2001/0045272	11/2001	Emerick, Sr. et al.			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
	AQ						
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
	AR						
EXAMINER . . .					DATE CONSIDERED		

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of form with next communication to applicant.